

Carol Coles

From: Carol Coles
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2011 11:36 AM
To: *everyone; _Council Members; Andy Rieger; Denise Holder; Eddie Sims; Jane Cannon; KGOU; KOCO; KOKH; Ktok; KTOK; Norman News; Oklahoma Daily
Subject: Norman Named Tree City USA

City of Norman
201 West Gray
Norman, Oklahoma 73069

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Representatives of the City of Norman and the Norman Tree Board received special recognition for tree care at the State Capitol in Oklahoma City this week. Norman has participated in the Tree City USA program for 9 years. Norman is among 23 cities, two Air Force bases and five public utilities that have been designated as a Tree City USA community or Tree Line USA utility in Oklahoma this year.

To earn Tree City USA status from The National Arbor Day Foundation, a city must establish a tree board, create a tree ordinance, spend at least \$2 per capita annually on a community forestry program and celebrate Arbor Day with an official proclamation and city-wide observance.

Norman planted and maintained trees and distributed educational material throughout the year to earn the Tree City USA recognition. The city secured a tree planting grant from the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for Griffin Community Park and received a grant from the Forestry Services Division of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry to assist with staffing an urban forestry position. In addition, the city sponsored a free tree giveaway with The Tree Bank of Oklahoma and the Apache Foundation.

“Tree City USA recognition is an honor to be shared with all Norman’s forward thinking citizens who plant and nurture trees,” said Suzanne Terry of the Norman Tree Board.